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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/834,701	04/12/2001	Tom Ren	REN,01B	5019

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17427 Rolling Creek
Houston, TX 77090

EXAMINER

TRUONG, CAM Y T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2162

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

87

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/834,701

Applicant(s)

REN ET AL.

Examiner

Cam Y T. Truong

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 17-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 17-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant has amended claims 1, 17 in the amendment filed on 6/21/2005.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 and 17-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 7, 9, 11, 12 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janacek et al (or hereinafter "Janacek") (US 6684248) in view of Robertson (USP 6269369).

As to claim 1, Janacek teaches the claimed limitations:

"receiving records of individuals from an existing database automatically and without express registration action in the web-based database by the individuals" as transferring messages that include addresses' recipients from a sender to a secure database server, upon receiving messages, the secure database server create accounts for recipients without recipients' request creating accounts. The above information shows that the sender has included a database to contains addresses' recipients. Addresses' recipients are presented as records of

individuals. The secure database server receives the messages automatically (col. 3, lines 55-65; col. 4, lines 49-60; col. 15, lines 35-50);

"populating a web-based database with records of the individuals from the existing database" as transferring messages that include addresses' recipients from a sender to a secure database server, upon receiving messages, the secure database server create accounts for recipients without recipients' request creating accounts. The above information shows that the sender has included a database to contains addresses' recipients. Addresses' recipients are presented as records of individuals. The messages that includes addresses' recipients are populated to the secure database server (col. 3, lines 55-65; col. 4, lines 49-60; col. 15, lines 35-50);

"creating an access account for each individual record without express registration action in the web-based database by the individuals" as creating a user account for each user without requiring user's request (col. 3, lines 55-65); "transmitting the access account to the individuals" as the recipient's username and password are passed as parameters from the hyperlink to the login screen, which authenticates them against the user database and allows entry for the recipient into its account. Once granted entry into the account, the system allows the recipients to access its private message Inbox and retrieve one or more of its certified messages. The above information shows that the system transmits the access account to recipients. Recipients are represented as individuals (col. 5, lines 18-24).

Janacek does not explicitly teach the claimed limitation "updating a web-based database; enabling remote maintenance of the individual records by the individuals by use of the access account".

Robertson teaches a second user changes any information in any data field of his data record, the information in that field is automatically updated in the information database of each first user whom he has given permission to view the information in that data field. To change any information in any data field of his data record, he has to logon the system by using username and password for access his record. His record is represented as his account (col. 5, lines 10-11; col. 3, lines 18-21).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Robertson's teaching of using the username and password for accessing account to update any information in any data field of a user account in a database to Janacek's system in order to Janacek's system in order to allow users directly update their information anytime via a network system quickly and provide up today records to senders correctly so that sender can communicate with recipient easily.

As to claim 2, Janacek teaches the claimed limitation "the records are received by transfer across an electronic link" as (col. 5, lines 50-60).

As to claim 3, Janacek teaches the claimed limitation "wherein the electronic link is electronic mail" as (col. 6, lines 50-60).

As to claim 7, Janacek teaches the claimed limitation "wherein the access accounts are generated automatically" as (col. 4, lines 50-67).

As to claim 9, Janacek the claimed limitation "wherein the temporary access accounts are transmitted to the individuals by email" as (col. 6, lines 3-9).

As to claim 11, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "wherein the remote maintenance occurs across the Internet." Robertson teaches whenever a second user changes any information in any data field of his data record, the information in that field is automatically updated in the information database of each first user whom he has given permission to view the information in that data field (col. 3, lines 15-20).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Robertson's teaching of whenever a second user changes any information in any data field of his data record, the information in that field is automatically updated in the information database of each first user whom he has given permission to view the information in that data field to Janacek's system in order to prevent a user to update a personal account without permission.

As to claim 12, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "wherein the remote maintenance comprises altering the individual records". Robertson teaches whenever a second user changes any information in any data field of his data record, the information in that field is automatically updated in the information database of each first user whom he has given permission to view the information in that data field (col. 3, lines 15-20).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Robertson's teaching of whenever a second user changes any information in any data field of his data record, the information in that field is automatically updated in the information database of each first user whom he has given permission to view the information in that data field to Reilly's system in order to prevent a user to update a personal account without permission.

As to claim 17, Janacek teaches the claimed limitations:

"a database automatically populated with customer data records without the customer accessing said database" as storing unique email addresses for non-registered users in a database automatically after the sender transmits a message that contains addresses' recipients (col. 10, lines 62-65; col. 3, lines 55-65; col. 15, lines 35-50);

"an account generator provided for creating access numbers for the data records" as creating username and password for each address's recipient (col. 4, lines 45-67);

"a broadcast system provided for distributing the access numbers to the unregistered customer" as the recipient's username and password are passed as parameters from the hyperlink to the login screen, which authenticates them against the user database and allows entry for the recipient into its account. Once granted entry into the account, the system allows the recipients to access its private message Inbox and retrieve one or more of its certified messages. The above information shows that the system transmits the access account to recipients. Recipients are represented as individuals (col. 5, lines 18-24);

"to enable customer access to the data records by use of the access numbers" as recipient to access his or her account by use of username and password (col. 5, lines 15-25).

Janacek does not clearly teach the claimed limitation "an update system provided".

Robertson teaches a computer-network-based contact management system that allows members to create and maintain contact with other members (col. 5, lines 46-48).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Robertson's teaching of a computer-network-based contact management system that allows members to create and maintain contact with other members to Janacek's system in order to allow users directly update their information anytime via a network system quickly and

provide up today records to senders correctly so that sender can communicate with recipient easily.

4. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janacek in view of Robertson (USP 6269369) and further in view of Reilly (US 6427164).

As to claim 4, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "electronic link is selected from satellite systems, cable systems, direct modem connections, network connections, VPN connections, or Intranet connections". Reilly teaches satellite communication links and network connection (col. 8, lines 30-40; col. 1, lines 15-20; figs 1&2).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Reilly's teaching of satellite communication link and network connection to Janacek's system in order to allow users can communicate with the system by using their email addresses.

As to claim 5, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "the populating of the web-based database with the individual records further comprises automatically mapping the records". Reilly teaches that the electronic mail message is sent from the sending server to a receiving server associated with the receipt of the message. In order to accept the electronic mail content from the sending server, the receiving server must

generally be able to validate that there is indeed a user name corresponding exactly with the electronic mail receipt's name. The receiving server thus, checks its database of electronic mail users and validates the electronic mail recipient's name (col. 2, lines 25-40; col. 3, lines 20-40).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Reilly's teaching of the electronic mail message is sent from the sending server to a receiving server associated with the receipt of the message. In order to accept the electronic mail content from the sending server, the receiving server must generally be able to validate that there is indeed a user name corresponding exactly with the electronic mail receipt's name to Janacek's system to update user's records without user's interaction.

As to claim 6, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation " wherein the populating of the web-based database with the individual records further comprises manually mapping the records" as the electronic mail message is sent from the sending server to a receiving server associated with the receipt of the message. In order to accept the electronic mail content from the sending server, the receiving server must generally be able to validate that there is indeed a user name corresponding exactly with the electronic mail receipt's name. The receiving server thus,

checks its database of electronic mail users and validates the electronic mail recipient's name (col. 2, lines 25-40; col. 3, lines 20-40).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Reilly's teaching of the electronic mail message is sent from the sending server to a receiving server associated with the receipt of the message. In order to accept the electronic mail content from the sending server, the receiving server must generally be able to validate that there is indeed a user name corresponding exactly with the electronic mail receipt's name to Janacek's system to update user's records without user's interaction.

5. Claims 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janacek et al (or hereinafter "Janacek") in view of Robertson and further in view Trent et al (or hereinafter "Trent") (US 5961620).

As to claim 8, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "wherein the temporary access accounts are transmitted to the individuals by fax". Trent teaches that address book application program maintains an address book information file, which contains a default list of default client communication application programs. The default list specifies a default client communication application program for each of a predetermined set of communication types. For example, predetermined communication types may include fax, video, voice, or e-mail communication type (col. 6, lines 40-50).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Trent's teaching of communication types may include fax, video, voice or email into Janacek's system in order to allow a system or a user to have more choices in communication with other users or another system.

6. Claim 10, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janacek in view of Robertson and further in view of Trent and Despres et al (USP 6434379).

As to claim 10, Reilly discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 1, except the claimed limitation "the temporary access accounts are transmitted by a media selected from voice mail, physical address, or pager". Trent teaches that address book application program maintains an address book information file, which contains a default list of default client communication application programs. The default list specifies a default client communication application program for each of a predetermined set of communication types. For example, predetermined communication types may include fax, video, voice, or e-mail communication type (col. 6, lines 40-50). Despres teaches the network sending a voice message to the terminal (col. 3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Trent's teaching of communication types may include fax, video, voice or email and Despres's teaching of the network sending a voice message to the terminal into Reilly and Robertson's system in order to allow a

system or a user to have more choices in communication with other users or another system.

As to claim 22, Lee and Johnson discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 17, except the claimed limitation "wherein the broadcast . . . , mail, or by pager". Trent teaches that address book application program maintains an address book information file, which contains a default list of default client communication application programs. The default list specifies a default client communication application program for each of a predetermined set of communication types. For example, predetermined communication types may include fax, video, voice, or e-mail communication type (col. 6, lines 40-50). Also, Despres teaches the network sending a voice message to the terminal (col. 3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Trent's teaching of communication types may include fax, video, voice or email and Despres's teaching of the network sending a voice message to the terminal into Lee's system in order to allow a system or a user to have more choices in communication with other users or another system.

As to claim 23, Lee discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 17, except the claimed limitation "wherein the broadcast system distributes the access numbers by a combination of fax, email, and voice mail". Trent teaches that

address book application program maintains an address book information file, which contains a default list of default client communication application programs. The default list specifies a default client communication application program for each of a predetermined set of communication types. For example, predetermined communication types may include fax, video, voice, or e-mail communication type (col. 6, lines 40-50). Despres teaches the network sending a voice message to the terminal (col. 3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Trent's teaching of communication types may include fax, video, voice or email and Despres's teaching of the network sending a voice message to the terminal into Lee and Johnson's system in order to allow a system or a user to have more choices in communication with other users or another system.

7. Claims 18, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Janacek in view of Robertson and further in view of Lee.

As to claim 18, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 17, except the claimed limitation "wherein the database is a web-based database".

Lee teaches web server (fig.4, col. 5, lines 1-10).

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It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Lee's teaching of web server to Janacek's system in order to display user records in a web site.

As to claim 19, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 17, except the claimed limitation "wherein the customer data records include marketing profiles". Lee teaches providing multiple database records of similar promotional information with different vendors (col. 4, lines 45-55; col. 5, lines 25-45).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply Lee's teaching of providing multiple database records of similar promotional information with different vendors to Janacek's system in order to allow users to store their records and allow other user to search/retrieve their promotional information.

As to claim 21, Janacek discloses the claimed limitation subject matter in claim 17, except the claimed limitation "wherein the broadcast system distributes the access numbers by email". Lee teaches sending email to that potential recipient (col. 7, lines 20-21; col. 5, lines 1-10).

It would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply sending email to that potential recipient to Janacek's

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system in order to send the access account number to a user and to allow users to access their accounts.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Davis et al (US 6138155).

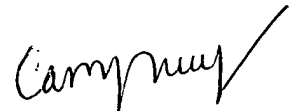
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Contact Information

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cam-Y Truong
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2162
7/8/2005